DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY
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URBAN DISTRICT OF MARKET HARBOROUGH

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1968.

Incorporating a report on the sanitary circumstances of the District prepared by B.S.Pike, M.A.P.H.I., Chief Public Health Inspector.

R.W.Kind, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS

Area in acres 4,878

Rateable Value at April 1st,1968 £537,920

Sum represented by a penny rate £2,280 (Estimated)

Number of occupied houses 4,961

Number of Council Houses 950

Population (mid.1968) 13,180

BIRTHS

Live births: Legitimate

Male	135
Female	121
Total	256

Illegitimate

Male	6
Female	3
Total	9

All live births

Male	141
Female	124
Total	265

Still births:

Male	1
Female	-
Total	1

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population 20.1

DEATHS

Deaths: All causes

Male	66
Female	101
Total	167

Deaths from puerperal causes NIL

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age

Male	3
Female	2
Total	5

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population 12.7

Causes of Death.

B List No.	International Classification	1968		
		Male	Female	Total
B11	Meningococcal Infection	-	1	1
B19(1)	Malignant neoplasm - stomach	2	1	3
B19(2)	Malignant neoplasm - lung, bronchus	3	-	3
B19(3)	Malignant neoplasm - breast	-	4	4
B19(5)	Leukaemia	-	1	1
B19(6)	Other malignant neoplasms,etc.	6	11	17
B20	Benign & unspecified neoplasms	-	1	1
B46(3)	Mental disorders	-	1	1
B46(4)	Other diseases of nervous system,etc.	-	2	2
B27	Hypertensive disease	1	2	3
B28	Ischaemic heart disease	18	17	35
B29	Other forms of heart disease	2	16	18
B30	Cerebrovascular disease	12	20	32
B46(5)	Other diseases of circulatory system	6	6	12
B31	Influenza	-	4	4
B32	Pneumonia	3	5	8
B33(1)	Bronchitis & Emphysema	5	-	5
B46(6)	Other diseases of respiratory system	-	1	1
B36	Intestinal obstruction & hernia	1	-	1
B37	Cirrhosis of liver	1	-	1
B38	Nephritis & Nephrosis	1	-	1
B46(10)	Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal system	-	1	1
B42	Congenital anomalies	1	2	3
B43	Birth injury,difficult labour,etc.	1	-	1
B44	Other causes of perinatal mortality	1	1	2
B45	Symptoms & ill-defined conditions	2	2	4
BE47	Motor vehicles accidents	-	1	1
BE48	All other accidents	-	1	1
	Total deaths All causes	66	101	167

CONTROL AND PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Tuberculosis.

There were no deaths from tuberculosis during the year.

Two new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified.

Other infectious disease.

The following cases were notified:-

Measles	25
Whooping Cough	10
Dysentery	1

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS.

No formal action was necessary during 1968.

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SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The water supply of the district continues to be satisfactory in quality and quantity. There were no shortages during 1968. Five samples were taken for bacteriological examination and found to be sterile.

One occupied house in the district is still dependent on a private well for its water supply. This water was also tested and found to be satisfactory.

There were no major extensions of public water supplies during the year, but work was commenced on the building of a new service reservoir.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

There were no extensions to sewers other than normal minor extensions to meet housing development needs in 1968 and at present there is no scheme in hand for extension or alteration of Sewage Disposal Works.

Public Cleansing.

House refuse is collected by direct labour and disposed of by controlled tipping. This service is administered by the Engineer & Surveyor.

The Health Department operates the trade refuse collection scheme. A yearly charge of £3. is made for the weekly collection of one dustbin, or its equivalent, of trade refuse. This service provides collection of refuse from 290 bins at 155 trade premises. Also bulk refuse is collected regularly from two textile factories and as required from other trade premises on a cost-recovery basis.

Dustbins for the storage of house refuse are supplied by the Department at an annual hire charge of 6/- per bin. At the end of 1968, 2,839 Council dustbins were in use at 2,642 private properties.

Inspection of the Area.

Number of complaints received ...	584
Premises at which defects or nuisances were dealt with ...	764

Inspections made, 1968.

	Number of Inspections
Animal Keeping	22
Bakehouses	5
Dairies	4
Drainage Works	111
Dwelling-houses (all purposes)	2,878
Infectious Disease Enquiries	39
Food Poisoning Enquiries	12
Food Premises	679
Offensive Trades	6
Refuse Collection and Disposal	1,054
Schools	6
Shops & Offices	160
Slaughterhouses & Meat Inspection	872
Smoke Control	80
Caravans,etc.	37
Verminous & Dirty Premises	21
Water Supplies	8
Factories & Workshops	139
Rodent Control (Excluding visits by Rodent Officer)	64
Other Inspections	523
TOTAL	6,720

Notices

INFORMAL	HOUSING	PUBLIC HEALTH
Outstanding on 1st January	1	3
Issued during year	55	138
Complied with during year	56	141
Outstanding 31st December	-	-

STATUTORY	HOUSING	PUBLIC HEALTH
Outstanding on 1st January	1	-
Issued during year	2	-
Complied with during year	1	-
Outstanding 31st December	2	-

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

Licences renewed/issued	2
Visits to premises	2
Contraventions found	NIL

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

Number of premises registered for upholstering,etc. 1

Special Classes of premises & Occupations subject to control.

Written consent to establishment of trade of Rag & Bone Dealer renewed. 1

Written consent to establishment of trade of Fat Extractor, Fat Melter and Glue Maker in operation. 1

Six inspections were made of these premises which were found to be satisfactory.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Routine inspection of the District is carried out by the Rodent Officer and his assistant, as other Health Department duties permit. 2,575 visits and inspections were made in survey and treatment of rodent infestations. 226 infestations were dealt with. Rodent infestations on domestic premises are treated free, a charge being made for work done at business or agricultural premises. Regular inspections and treatments as required are carried out at all Council properties.

Swimming Baths.

31 inspections of the Public Swimming Baths were made. Plant and premises are inspected, and tests carried out of the swimming water. 8 samples were examined bacteriologically and found to be satisfactory.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

There are 4 licences operative in respect of single caravan sites, and 1 licence for a site for 40 residential caravans. No new licences were issued this year.

Living vans were removed from unlicensed sites on 4 occasions.

Noise Abatement Act, 1960.

Informal action to reduce industrial noise at one factory produced a measure of success, but owing to the proximity of the plant to residential property, has not completely eliminated the annoyance to neighbours. After informal action, work was in progress at another factory at the end of the year on installation of silencers, which the specialist manufacturers were confident would abate the nuisance. Nuisance from a third factory was abated after an approach to the Company, by remounting machines on insulating pads. Other complaints of noise nuisance were investigated but not substantiated.

THE INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

Premises inspected	90
Inspections made	417
Informal Notices served	12
Informal Notices complied with	17

Food & Drugs Act, 1955.

12 complaints of unsound food, or food containing foreign bodies were received & investigated fully.

One complaint led to the prosecution of a retailer for the sale of a pork pie which was mouldy. The retailer was fined £20 and ordered to pay costs.

Inspections were made of all premises likely to combine the sale of foodstuffs and petfoods, as a result of an Inspector finding live spider beetles in a small carton of goldfish food. One retailer who was warned of the danger said that this type of infestation was not uncommon.

Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls & Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966.

24 stalls and 8 delivery vehicles, all complying with the Regulations, were inspected. No exemption certificates have been issued.

Ice Cream.

Two premises were registered for the sale of ice cream. The total number of registered premises in the district is now sixty-eight.

Milk: Dairies and Distributors.

Dairies registered	2
Distributors registered	7
Inspections made	17

Milk: Sampling.

From August, 1967, there has been no milk produced in the district for sale as "untreated" milk. No samples were taken by this Authority.

Unsound Food Surrendered or Condemned.

Meat at retail shops	717 lb
Meat at wholesale premises	272 "
Canned meats	17 "
Other canned foods	1,107 "
Other foods	1,059 "
	3,172 "

Meat & Other Foods.

The Council owns the abattoir and provides the facilities for a public slaughterhouse. 29,176 animals were slaughtered during 1968, all of which were examined before leaving the abattoir.

Carcases inspected and condemned:-

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	8,162	72	37	11,482	9,423
Number inspected	8,162	72	37	11,482	9,423
All Diseases except Tuberculosis Whole carcases condemned	4	-	7	30	9
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3,189	11	-	399	794
Percentage of number affected with disease other than tuberculosis	39·12%	15·27%	18·9%	3·74%	8·52%
Tuberculosis only Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	28
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	0·297%

Nine carcases were found to be infested with cysticercus bovis and were subjected to refrigeration, the affected organs being condemned.

Total weight of meat & offal condemned - 52,237 lbs (23 tons.6 cwt. 1 qr.17 lbs)

Meat Stalls
Number of Inspections _____ 124

Meat Shops, Meat Stores, etc.
Number of Inspections _____ 41

Places where food (other than meat) is kept or prepared for sale
Number of Inspections _____ 293

HOUSING

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR 1968.

Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	303
Number of inspections made for the purpose	555
Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	3

Houses demolished or closed in the period

Housing Act, 1957	Houses	Number of Persons displaced
Demolished	-	-
Closed as a result of closing orders or undertakings	2	4

REPAIRS in the period	Number of Houses
Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period	
(i) as a result of informal action by the Local Authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts	110
(ii) as a result of formal notices under Public Health Acts	-

HOUSING ACT, 1949.

(a) Number of applications for improvement grants	7
(b) Number of applications approved	7
(c) Number of applications refused	-

HOUSE PURCHASE & HOUSING ACT, 1959.

(a) Number of applications received for standard grants	36
(b) Number of properties improved during year	29

New Houses

Houses completed during the year:-

(a) By Local Authority	28
(b) By private enterprise	138

Houses under construction at the close of the year:-

(a) By Local Authority	-
(b) By private enterprise	172

TOTAL number of Post War houses completed by:-

(a) Local Authority	651
(b) Private enterprise	1,508

Total number of applicants for Council houses at end of year	185
Number of applications received during the year	77
Number of Council houses in the district prior to 1939	319

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

The total numbers of registered premises at the end of 1968 were:-

Offices	50
Retail Shops	126
Wholesale shops, warehouses	5
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	21
Fuel storage depots	2
	204

160 visits and inspections were made. 33 registered premises received a general inspection.

Contraventions were as follows:-

	Found	Remedied
Offices	-	2
Retail shops	7	16
Wholesale premises	6	2
Catering establishments	-	2
Fuel storage depots	-	-
	13	22

Five accidents of a minor nature were reported during the year.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956.

80 observations & inspections were carried out, 5 contraventions were dealt with informally.

1 notification was received under Section 3 of intention to install furnace plant and 1 chimney height approved.

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION
OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961.
PART I OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS:-

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	19	45	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sect.7 is enforced by the Local Authority	93	82	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Sect. 7 in enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	9	12	-	-
Total	121	139	-	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND:-

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences:					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT
Outwork
(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of work	No. of Outworkers on List
Wearing apparel, making etc.	10